

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0019] with the following:

[0019] The data structures and code described in this detailed description are typically stored on a computer readable storage medium, which may be any device or medium that can store code and/or data for use by a computer system. This includes, but is not limited to, magnetic and optical storage devices such as disk drives, magnetic tape, CDs (compact discs) and DVDs (digital versatile discs or digital video discs), and computer instruction signals embodied in a transmission medium (with or without a carrier wave upon which the signals are modulated). For example, the transmission medium may include a communications network, such as the Internet.

Please replace page 17 of the instant application as follows:

~~METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FACILITATING SECURE CENTRALIZED ADMINISTRATION OF DATABASES~~

ABSTRACT

One embodiment of the present invention provides a system that facilitates configuring a database. During operation, the system requests database configuration information from a directory server that stores configuration information for a plurality of database instances. In response to this request, the system receives the database configuration information, and configures the database in accordance with the database configuration information received from

the directory server. This enables the database server to be configured without requiring manual configuration operations by a database administrator.